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February 21, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: Docket WT 12-4

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

On behalf of the members of Latinos in Information Sciences and Technology Association, I am writing to support the Verizon Wireless - SpectrumCo application for assignment of 122 AWS licenses and the related commercial agreements with various cable providers.

LISTA is interested in the advancement of new technologies that will serve Latino consumers and provide opportunities for Latino businesses. In this respect, we are keenly interested in research and development initiatives in the commercial agreements that could develop technologies to enable wireless devices to seamlessly pass data traffic from the wireless network to Wi-Fi hotspots. If such nascent technologies can be fully developed and brought to the marketplace, they could enable customers to avoid monthly data plan overages and thereby save money and get more use out of their smartphones and tablets for work, news, information or entertainment.

It is also our hope and expectation that new generations of technologies and applications that could flow from this initiative will also create opportunities for minority vendors in the technology.

The collaboration of the best and brightest in industry has a long tradition in the U.S. – and includes the historic innovations of Bell Labs – and is essential if the U.S will continue as a global leader in meeting an ever-elastic consumer demand for new communications products and services. Antitrust and competition laws not only permit these collaborations but actually encourage them when they foster innovation innovations and if they do not otherwise restrain trade. According to all public information available to us, the collaborations would seem to clearly meet both tests.

The "agency agreement" between Verizon Wireless and the SpectrumCo cable members is also encouraging. In the Latino community, use of mobile technology -- particularly data-centric uses like

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texting -- outpaces the rest of the population. Yet adoption of wireline broadband at home lags well below the national average, especially in homes in which English is not the first language. It is our hope that, by creating attractively-priced bundles of wireless and wireline services, more Latino households will leap across the digital divide and develop the skills they need to succeed in the 21st Century economy.

Finally, we strongly urge that the FCC approve the spectrum sale to Verizon Wireless.

As the FCC is well aware, America faces a wireless bandwidth crisis. Wireless data usage doubled from 2009-2010 and was on pace to double again last year. The explosion of this demand is closely tied to the tremendous growth in the "app" market which has opened doors for thousands of entrepreneurial tech developers — many small and minority entrepreneurs — to unleash products and services into a ready-made distribution channel with tens of millions of customers.

Making more bandwidth available now is not only critical for consumers but also to provide the lubricant for the "app" market on which so many small and emerging businesses now depend. By transferring unutilized spectrum to Verizon Wireless, which will add it to its nationwide 4G-LTE network, this agreement will increase the nation's wireless broadband capacity when the country is thirsting for it.

For these reasons, we believe the Verizon Wireless – SpectrumCo application and related commercial agreements are in the public interest and will likely produce more innovation, consumer convenience and savings and liberate much needed spectrum for consumers.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jose A. Marquez

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CEO

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